

Bechtel

50 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1895
Mailing address: P.O. Box 193965
San Francisco, CA 94119-3965

Memorandum

To: Paul La Courreye, EPA Region IX
Subject: Completed Work
Date: September 1, 1992
cc: Susan Naughton, BEI ARCS

Attached is the following completed document:

PA _____ PA Summary _____ SI _____ SI Summary X
Other _____

Site Name: Diamond Steel Company
EPA ID: CAD 982358525
City, County: Yuba City, Sutter County, California

Latitude: 39° 09' 13.43" N Longitude: 121° 37' 03.90" W

For EPA Use Only

EPA Further Action Determination: SII CAMP SEA
SI Lead: EPA
Sign Off Date: 9/4/92
Initials of Work Assignment Manager: Paul La Courreye



Bechtel Environmental, Inc.

50 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1895
Mailing address: P.O. Box 193965
San Francisco, CA 94119-3965

Bechtel

Memorandum

To: Paul La Courtey, EPA Region IX
Subject: Completed Work
Date: September 1, 1992
cc: Susan Naughton, BEI ARCS

Attached is the following completed document:

PA _____
Other _____
PA Summary _____
SI _____
SI Summary ☒ X

Site Name: _____
EPA ID: _____

City, County: _____

Yuba City, Sutter County, California

CAD 982358525 (3242)

Diamond Steel Company

Latitude: _____

39° 09' 13.43" N

Longitude: _____

121° 37' 03.90" W

For EPA Use Only

EPA Further Action Determination: _____

SI Lead: _____

Sign Off Date: _____

Bechtel Environmental, Inc.

Bechtel Environmental, Inc.

Bechtel

50 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1895
Mailing address: P.O. Box 193965
San Francisco, CA 94119-3965

Site Inspection Summary Report

Site: Diamond Steel Company, Inc.
401 Queens Avenue
Yuba City, California 95991

Site EPA ID Number: CAD 982358525

Work Assignment Number: 60-15-9J00, ARCSWEST Program

Submitted to: Paul La Courreye
Work Assignment Manager
EPA Region IX

Date: September 1, 1992

Prepared by: Adam A. Violich *AV*

Review and Concurrence: Susan Naughton *SN*



Bechtel Environmental, Inc.

SI SUMMARY REPORT

DIAMOND STEEL COMPANY

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region IX, under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), has tasked Bechtel Environmental, Inc. (BEI) to conduct a Site Inspection (SI) of the Diamond Steel Company site in Yuba City, Sutter County, California.

The Diamond Steel Company, Inc. (Diamond Steel) property was identified as a potential hazardous waste site and entered into the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) on January 1, 1988 (CAD 982358525). The site was entered into CERCLIS based on a California Department of Health Services drive-by inspection.

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) of the Diamond Steel Company site was conducted for the EPA by the California Department of Health Services in April 1989. The purpose of the PA was to review existing information on the site and its environs to assess the threat(s), if any, posed to public health, welfare, or the environment, and to determine if further action under CERCLA/SARA is warranted.

After reviewing the PA, the EPA decided that further investigation of the Diamond Steel Company site would be necessary to more completely evaluate the site, using the EPA's Hazard Ranking System (HRS) criteria. The HRS assesses the relative threat associated with actual or potential releases of hazardous substances at the site. The HRS has been adopted by the EPA to help set priorities for further evaluation and eventual remedial action at hazardous waste sites. The HRS is the primary method of determining a site's eligibility for placement on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL identifies sites at which EPA may conduct remedial response actions. This report summarizes the results of the SI investigation of the Diamond Steel Company site.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Diamond Steel operated a steel fabricating plant from 1964 to September 1983 at 401 Queens Avenue, Yuba City, California. Prior to 1964, Diamond Steel was known as Yuba Sutter Burner, a road oil and heating oil supply company. The 9-acre site, which consisted of three steel buildings and six aboveground storage tanks, has been abandoned since 1983, and no remnants of previous structures appear to remain. The site is owned by Raymond Griffin of Arbuckle, California. Mr. Griffin and Fritz Strain jointly owned Diamond Steel Company, Inc. until its sale in 1983.

The Sutter County Assessor's parcel number for the site is 03-040-032. The PA incorrectly indicates the address of the site as 1757 Live Oak Boulevard. This address represents parcel number 03-040-046 and is not associated with the site.

Bordering the property is the Pacific Gas and Electric Company storage yard to the north, a small shopping mall to the west, Queens Avenue and residential buildings to the south, and an empty lot and the Feather River levee to the east. The area surrounding the site is industrial and residential,



with the nearest residences located on the opposite side of Queens Avenue. The Feather River is located approximately 3,000 feet to the west of the site.

Diamond Steel built and repaired tanks from sheets of steel; cutting and welding were the only manufacturing processes used. Tanks were often steam cleaned and painted, using lacquer and enamel paints and paint thinners. Diamond Steel continued to sell road oil and heating oil to municipalities and local residents until 1983. Industrial wastes generated during active operations include metal fragments, machining wastes, oils, paints, and solvents.

On August 21, 1992, the BEI site reconnaissance team observed the site to be completely abandoned, with no apparent remains of any previous structure. The property was densely covered with weeds that appeared to have been mowed recently in some areas.

SUMMARY OF SITE INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

The PA conducted in April 1989 by the DHS recommended no further action under CERCLA. The information indicated that the site was not likely to be eligible for inclusion on the NPL due to a low groundwater pathway target population and the absence of an observed release. However, based on a shallow depth to groundwater with moderately permeable soils, a potentially high quantity of toxic and persistent waste on site, and a high groundwater target population based on Yuba City's emergency well system, the site appeared to be eligible for the NPL. The EPA recommended an SI to further evaluate the site. Further evaluation included a review of existing EPA, DHS and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board file information, collection of further groundwater and surface water data, a visit to the Diamond Steel Company site, and a reevaluation of the data, using the HRS.

The pertinent HRS factors associated with this site are:

- Although the Feather River lies in close proximity to the site, and several federally-listed endangered species live along its banks, a levee prevents surface water runoff from entering the river. The site is also graded in such a way that surface water would flow west, away from the river. Hydrogeological reports indicate that the groundwater moves to the southwest, away from the river.
- Although the depth to groundwater is only 15 feet and the soil is moderately permeable, there are no wells on site. The nearest well, an active drinking water well, is located 0.25 mile from the site and has never been sampled. Yuba City uses city-supplied water from the Feather River. The intake for this water is located 0.5 mile upstream of the site, and there are no known drinking water intakes within 15 miles downstream of the site. Yuba City does have an emergency water supply system that utilizes groundwater, but it has not been used since 1969. The populations of Marysville, Linda and Olivehurst use groundwater, but all their wells lie hydraulically upgradient of the site.
- The site is abandoned and no sign of any previous structures were seen.
- There are food and forage crops within 3 miles of the site, but they are almost entirely irrigated with surface water from the Feather River.
- The only potential CERCLA-eligible hazardous waste sources on the property appear to be waste oil, solvents and paint. During the BEI site visit, no sign of these contaminants was observed.



EPA RECOMMENDATION

No Further Remedial Action Planned under CERCLA

Higher-Priority SSI under CERCLA

Lower-Priority SSI under CERCLA

Defer to Other Authority (e.g., RCRA, TSCA, NRC)

Initial

Date

Jm2

9/4/92

Notes:



CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY/AFFILIATION: Sutter County Public Works		
DEPARTMENT:		
ADDRESS: 1201 Civic Center Blvd	CITY: Yuba City	
COUNTY: Sutter	STATE: CA	ZIP: 95993
CONTACT(S)	TITLE	PHONE
Cheryl Dahlman		(916) 741-7450
BEI PERSON MAKING CONTACT: Adam A. Violich		DATE: 08/17/92
SUBJECT: Water use in Yuba City		
SITE NAME: Onstott Dusters Inc		EPA ID: CAD 98 241 7230

DISCUSSION: According to Cheryl Dahlman, almost the entire population of Yuba City (Approximately 28,000) uses Feather River water as their drinking water source. She said that there are very few (Approximately 10-12) private drinking water wells in Yuba City. The intake for the surface water system is located at the Water Treatment Plant, which is 0.25 mile north of the hospital on Live Oak Blvd. This would position the intake 2.5 miles upstream from the site of Onstott Dusters Inc.

CONTACT CONCURRENCE: _____ DATE: _____



CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY/AFFILIATION: Employee of Diamond Steel Co. / Diamond Built Co.		
DEPARTMENT:		
ADDRESS: 971 N. George Washington Blvd	CITY: Yuba City	
COUNTY: Sutter	STATE: CA	ZIP: 95993
CONTACT(S)	TITLE	PHONE
William Hessong	Foreman	(916) 674-8577
BEI PERSON MAKING CONTACT: Adam A. Violich <i>AV</i> <i>Sn</i>		DATE: 08/18/92
SUBJECT: Information on history and operations of Diamond Steel Co.		
SITE NAME: Diamond Steel Co.		EPA ID: CAD 98 235 8525

DISCUSSION: William Hussong supplied the following information:

Diamond Steel Co. was formerly known as Yuba Sutter Burner, which was a road oil and heating oil supply company from approximately 1918 to 1964. The Yuba Sutter Burner's address was 1757 Live Oak Blvd. The company sold oil to municipalities and homes in the local area. It also built small storage tanks for domestic use.

From 1964 to 1983, Diamond Steel Co. operated a steel fabricating plant on the same site, approximately 9 acres in size. The Diamond Steel Co.'s address was 1757 Live Oaks Blvd. The majority of the business was building 10,000-gallon underground storage tanks for Standard Oil. The tanks were made from sheets of steel, thus cutting and welding were the main processes used. Other services performed by Diamond Steel Co. were the fabrication of fuel and water tanks for trucks, the steam cleaning and painting of tanks, the sales of road and heating oil, and, at one time, the chemical stripping of cables. ^{Reels} Only once did it sandblast a tank and repaint it on site. On this occasion Mr. Hessong recalled that the sandblaster collected and removed the residue.

The steam cleaning of tanks occurred prior to 1976 and was performed on the tanks of tanker trucks. Diamond Steel assumed the tanks came in empty. The steam cleaning rack was located in the southeast portion of the property on a concrete slab with a sump. This area then became the location of the "new" paint shop. The old paint shop was located approximately 200 feet east and a little north of the new paint shop, positioning it on the far eastern part of the property. Diamond Steel used lacquer and enamel paints and the corresponding paint thinners. He estimated that more than 100 tanks were built annually. The main tank construction took place in a large building now represented by a 100 feet by 130 feet concrete slab.



CONTACT REPORT (Cont'd)

AGENCY/AFFILIATION: Employee of Diamond Steel Co. / Diamond Built Co.		
CONTACT(S)	TITLE	PHONE
William Hussong	Foreman	(916) 674-8577
SITE NAME: Diamond Steel Co.		EPA ID: CAD 98 235 8525

DISCUSSION: Cont'd

The company had a 550 or 1000 gallon underground gasoline storage tank which was used for refueling its own vehicles. This tank was removed immediately after Diamond Steel was sold. The Diamond Steel Co. was sold in 1983, and the site was vacated that same year. The oil was stored in six 4,000 to 6,000-gallon above ground storage tanks. Water was supplied to the Diamond Steel by an onsite well until the company went over to city water in 1980. Mr. Hessong did not know where the well was located. The entrance used by Diamond Steel is on Live Oak Blvd. ^{at the Greenway} A shopping mall, built after Diamond Steel left the site, is now located at the previous entrance.

CONTACT CONCURRENCE: William Hussong DATE: 8-21-92



CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY/AFFILIATION: California State Water Resources Control Board		
DEPARTMENT:		
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2000		CITY: Sacramento
COUNTY: Sacramento	STATE: CA	ZIP: 95812-2000
CONTACT(S)	TITLE	PHONE
Tom Lavenda	Engineer	(916) 657-2170
BEI PERSON MAKING CONTACT: Adam A. Violich		DATE: 08/20/92
SUBJECT: Drinking water intakes along the Feather River		
SITE NAME: Onstott Duster Inc.		EPA ID: CAD 98 241 7320

DISCUSSION: According to Mr. Lavenda, there are no drinking water intakes along the Feather River for 15 miles downstream of the Onstott Dusters Inc. site at the Yuba City Airport.

CONTACT CONCURRENCE: _____ DATE: _____



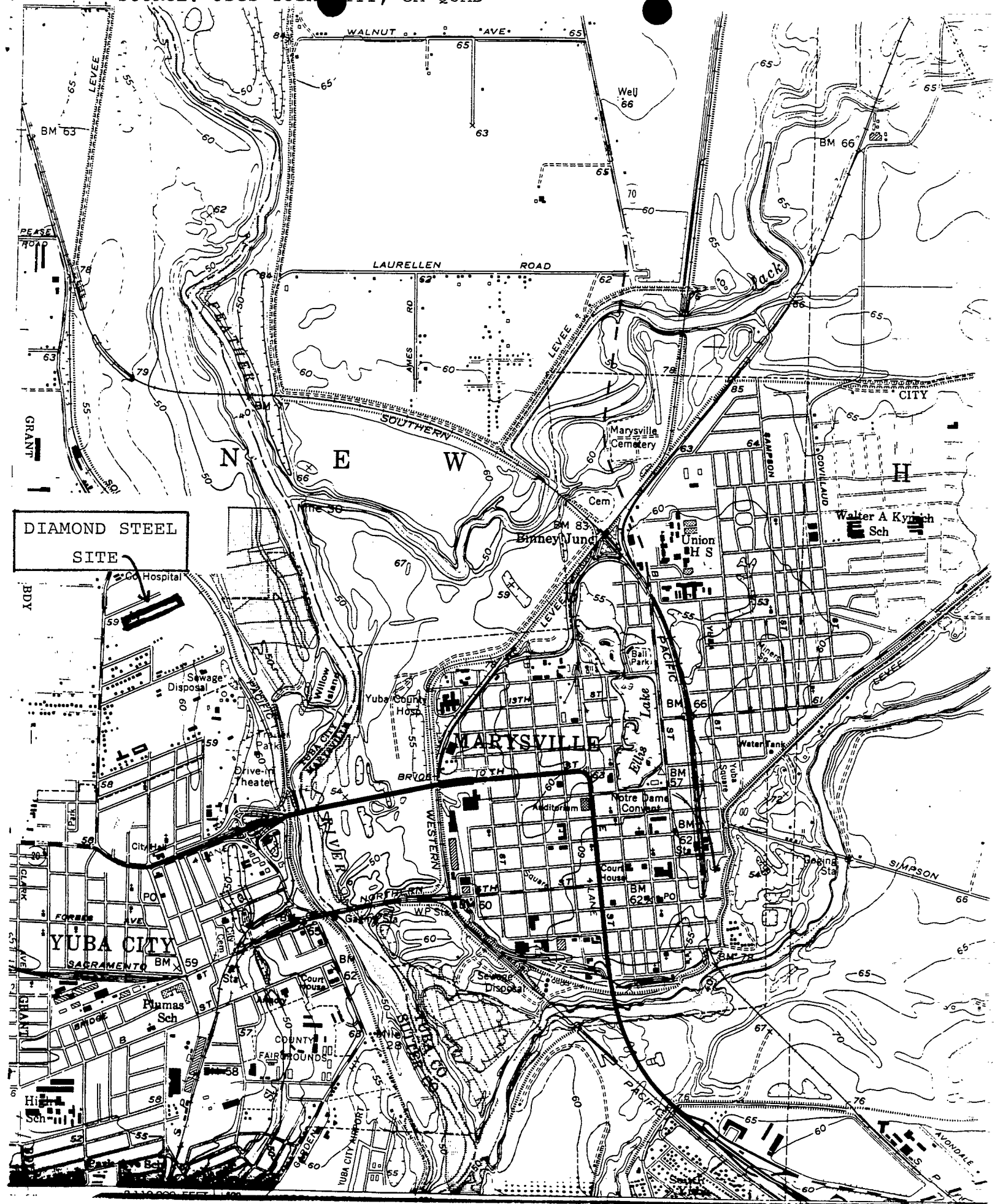
CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY/AFFILIATION: Yuba City Water Co.		
DEPARTMENT:		
ADDRESS: 1201 Civic Center Blvd		CITY: Yuba City
COUNTY: Sutter	STATE: CA	ZIP: 95993
CONTACT(S)	TITLE	PHONE
Gary McClindon	Senior Customer Service Representative	(916) 741-4618
BEI PERSON MAKING CONTACT: Adam A. Violich		DATE: 08/24/92
SUBJECT: Water use in Yuba City		
SITE NAME: Onstott Dusters Inc.		EPA ID: CAD 98 241 7230

DISCUSSION: According to Mr. McClindon, Yuba City Water serves a little over 30,000 people. The water all comes from the Feather River and the only intake is located 2.5 miles north of the Onstott Dusters site (0.5 mile north of the Sutter County Hospital) at the Water Treatment Plant. Approximately 99.9% of all residences of Yuba City utilize city water.

CONTACT CONCURRENCE: _____ DATE: _____





2534

Transmittal List

Site: Diamond Steel Company

OCT 29 1992

Raymond Griffin
P.O. Box 158
Arbuckle, CA 95912

Jerry Tarmen
Sutter County Environmental Health
1445 Circle Drive
Yuba City, CA 95993

Eric Hon
Toxic Substances Control Program
California Department of Health Services
10151 Croydon Way
Sacramento, CA 95827

